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Signature:

loy(j. Pickett)



Docket No.: 21547-00287-US (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tomas Back et al.

Application No.: 10/020,401

Filed: December 18, 2001

For: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR PRODUCING ELONGATE SUPPORT ELEMENT AND PRODUCT, AND USE OF

THE SUPPORT ELEMENT

Confirmation No.: 9654

Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: M. N. Bumgarner

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 3/5/04 To also

Atta: Andy Kosnetos (703) 305-5915

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the attorney named below be advised of the status of the above-identified application. An Amendment in response to Office Action dated May 16, 2003 was filed in the U. S. Patent & Trademark Office ("USPTO") on August 6, 2003. A copy of this Amendment and facsimile filing receipt is provided as an attachment to this inquiry. Please advise us of when we might expect to receive an Office Action from the USPTO.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21547-00287-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: February 4, 2004

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Enclosures: Amendment filed 08/06/2003

USPTO Auto Reply Facsimile Transmission dated 08/06/2003 Respectfully submitted,

Larry J. Hume

Registration No.: 44,163

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20036-3425

(202) 331-7111

(202) 293-6229 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant